

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 29 and 30 have been amended to put them into independent form. Claims 25-31 remain pending.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and receipt of the priority document filed in the parent application.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 2, 2004.

Double Patenting

Claims 25-28 and 31 are pending, and have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claim 15 of U.S. Application No. 10/250,939. Without

admitting to the propriety of the rejection, the Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer to avoid the rejection.

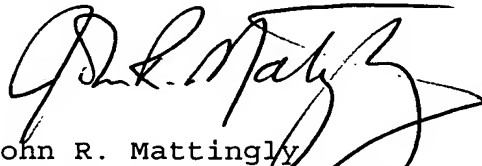
Indication of Allowability

Applicants have amended claims 29 and 30 to put them into independent form since each of these claims was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Mattingly", is written over the typed name and registration number.

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